

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art made of record does not teach or fairly suggest the combination of elements as recited in the independent claims. Specifically, the prior art does not teach:

(b) a computer processor, coupled to said at least one multimedia information input interface, receiving said multimedia information therefrom, processing said multimedia information by performing object extraction processing to create multimedia object descriptions from said multimedia information, said object descriptions associated with distinct multimedia objects, and processing said created multimedia object descriptions by object hierarchy processing to create multimedia object hierarchy descriptions indicative of an organization of said object descriptions and said distinct associated multimedia ~, wherein at least one description record including said multimedia object descriptions and said multimedia object hierarchy descriptions is created for content embedded within said multimedia information wherein said description record allows for searching said multimedia information for said embedded content;

The dependent claims being definite, further limiting and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

IN THE CLAIMS:

17. (Currently amended) A method for creating a description record from multimedia information, comprising the steps of:

- (a) receiving said multimedia information;
- (b) processing by a computer processor said multimedia information by performing object extraction processing to create multimedia object descriptions from said multimedia information said object descriptions associated with distinct multimedia objects;
- (c) processing said created multimedia object descriptions by object hierarchy processing to create multimedia object hierarchy descriptions indicative of an organization of said object descriptions and said distinct associated multimedia objects, wherein at least one description record including said multimedia object descriptions and said multimedia object hierarchy descriptions is created for content embedded within said multimedia information wherein said description record allows for searching said multimedia information for said embedded content; and
- (d) storing said at least one description record.

33-43. Canceled.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Robert L. Maier on August 28, 2009.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Etienne P. LeRoux whose telephone number is (571) 272-4022. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Apu Mofiz can be reached on (571) 272-4080. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Etienne P LeRoux/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2161

8/28/2009